

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Most of the precipitation last week occurred along the coast and in the northeastern part of the State. Temperatures were near normal for this time of year. High temperatures topped out in the mid to upper 80's in most areas. A few locations, especially in the east-central part of the State, saw low temperatures in the mid to lower 30's. Spotty rain showers improved soil moisture conditions in Malheur County but slowed potato and onion harvest. Cooler temperatures and some light rain showers last week improved pasture and range conditions in Washington County in the Willamette Valley.

Field Crops: Winter wheat planting got underway in many areas last week. Tillage and fertilizing operations also continued throughout last week. In Union County, recent wet weather has hampered the last of the small grain harvest and some farmers have had to set their combine heads low to cut stalks that were flattened by wind and rain. Third and fourth cutting alfalfa was being harvested across the State. Alfalfa hay operations were winding down in Wasco County. Corn silage was being cut and bagged in Jackson County and hop harvest was finishing-up in Marion County.

Fruit and Nuts: Winter pear harvest continued in the lower and mid Hood River Valley. Apple harvest continued throughout the Valley. Nectarine, peach, pear, and apple harvest continued in northern Wasco County. Grapes were nearing harvest with producers testing sugar levels. Pear harvest continued in Jackson County, along with some early varieties of wine grapes. The apple crop was in good condition throughout the Willamette Valley except for some late scab infection reported. Cranberry handlers were preparing to receive berries in late September as harvest will be underway shortly.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were gearing up for the fall marketing season. Fall bedding plants were in plentiful supply. Greenhouses getting fall vegetable starts out. Nurseries busy with product maintenance, feeding, weeding, and watering. Easter lily growers continued with harvest, sorting, and planting activities.

Vegetables: Vegetable harvest was underway across western Oregon. Corn, tomatoes, peppers and squash were all being harvested in Jackson County. Recent rains in the southern Willamette Valley increased the number of reports of blight in the tomato and potato crops. Carrot seed harvest was in full swing last week in Deschutes County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pasture and rangeland conditions continued to improve with recent precipitation promoting re-growth. Whereas overall conditions have improved, some of the drier areas will continue to need additional precipitation for adequate fall growth to occur. Producers were forced to over-graze in some of these areas and consequently it will now take longer to re-establish forage. Cattle were being brought home from forest and BLM rangeland in some areas of eastern Oregon. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 9/12/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley harvested (%)	94	87	99	89
Spring Wheat harvested (%)	96	92	100	98
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.2	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 9/12/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	7	35	58	—
Subsoil (%)	11	40	49	—

Crop Condition - Week Ending 9/12/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture (%)	2	18	42	32	6

CLACKAMAS: Field preparation for fall seeding underway. Strawberry fields being cultivated and fertilized. Caneberry pruning and training ongoing. Apple picking continues. Sweet corn still going to processors. Wide variety of vegetables available for local markets. Fall bedding plants in plentiful supply from greenhouse operations. Nurseries are gearing up for the fall marketing season. Pastures are greening up nicely. Livestock are in very good condition.

COOS/CURRY: Berry crops: Some cranberry handlers were preparing to receive berries in late September. Growers continued to report some second bloom, and vegetative growth was above average this year at some farms. Easter lily growers continued with harvest, sorting, and planting activities. Livestock mostly good. Some cattle buyers were purchasing calves. Sunshine and dry weather continued along the south coast. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 60.1 at Bandon to 60.2 deg F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 70.7 at Bandon to 83.2 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 48.5 at Bandon to 50.4 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 73 GDD at Bandon to 85 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

JACKSON: Fields being prepared for fall seeding. Final cutting of alfalfa beginning. Pear harvest continues as well as irrigation of orchards. Sweet corn, melons and tomato harvests progressing. Grain harvest mostly done. Second cutting of grass hay being baled. Also, some third cutting of alfalfa being done. Corn silage being cut and bagged. Pear and apple harvest is still underway. Still mostly Comice pears; deAnjou's about ready, with some being harvested. Some early varieties of wine grapes are being picked. Vegetable harvest is continuing; now mostly corn, tomatoes, peppers, melons and squash. Roadside stands have a good supply of these fresh vegetables. Farmers markets are also quite busy with fresh produce. Greenhouses getting fall vegetable starts out, as well as fall decorative plants; nurseries busy with product maintenance, feeding, weeding, and watering. Cattle on irrigated ground looking good. Need rain to get fall pastures growing; dry ground pastures are really dry.

JOSEPHINE: Table grapes are ripening fast. Truck gardens are doing very well. Fruit trees are showing lots of fruit; size is smaller than usual but there is a lot of it. Nuts are not so plentiful in our area. We have had cooler weather with wind. Day time temps are still warm but night time temps part of the week were in the forties. Temperatures were back up by the end of the week with lows in the upper 50's. September weather has been a little cooler than normal.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Apple crop still looking good except for a late scab infection. A lot of brown rot showing up in late peach varieties. Bartlett's nearing end; later pears still being picked. Asian pears nice crop. Some late strawberries, blueberries and blackberries. Vegetable crops still looking very nice. The last rain storm brought a lot of late blight to the tomato and potato crops. Chard, spinach, broccoli, egg plant, peppers looking very nice. Greenhouse and nursery crops nearing end of season.

MARION: A few fields of alfalfa are having their fourth cutting being taken. Still a little Arrowleaf and red clover seed being harvested. New tall fescue fields being planted; field prep being made for eventual planting to perennial ryegrass and a little winter wheat. Sugar beet seed fields are planted. Hop harvest is winding down; some growers have finished.

WASHINGTON: Red clover harvesting continues, weather permitting. Field corn nearing cutting stage. Alfalfa cut for fourth time; new grass for seed being planted. Blueberries, late blackberries and everbearing strawberries at markets. Hazelnuts falling; walnuts showing well. Sweet corn harvest continues. Green bean harvest continues. Cauliflower, broccoli and cabbage growing well. Squash being harvested and pumpkins showing brightly in fields. Tomatoes producing. Greenhouse and nurseries are spraying, pruning, planting and digging nursery plants. Irrigation continues. Beds being prepared for fall starts. Rains have improved pastures with green up and growth. Cattle and calves look good. Buffalo doing well. Cooler temperatures and some light showers during week.

YAMHILL: Prune harvest is in full swing.

EASTERN OREGON

DESCHUTES: Carrot seed harvest underway. Some final cutting of hay is down.

HARNEY: Third cutting alfalfa being harvested. Cattle being brought home from forest and BLM. Rain showers Saturday evening; hot beginning of week.

HOOD RIVER: Winter pear harvest continued in the lower and mid Hood River Valley. Harvest was just beginning in Parkdale. Apple harvest continued throughout the Valley.

KLAMATH: Harvest continues for barley and wheat crops. Above average yields for all grain crops continues. Local elevators are having problems with storage and are full or at near capacity. With no where to take the grain farmers are forced to delay grain harvest until storage becomes available. Some grain and wheat crops are being stored on the ground and elevators are having difficulty getting enough rail cars to ship grain out of the Basin. Some fourth cutting hay has been dropped. Cooler day and night time temperatures resulting in longer cure times for hay. Some potato crops may be nearing harvest. Potatoes: 65% turned, 10% harvested.

LAKE: Cool morning temperatures--warming up to the 80's in the afternoons. No precipitation for the week.

MALHEUR: Spotty rain showers over the weekend combined with warm temperatures during the week have improved the range situation considerably. However, those same rain showers have slowed harvest of onions and potatoes. Some fourth cutting of alfalfa has begun.

SHERMAN: Late August showers sprouted the cheat grass, so rod weeding before seeding is partial answer to killing it. Some fall fertilizing and early seeders have picked up their first load of seed wheat and have drills in field.

UNION: Fair weather prevailed throughout most of this last week. However, week's end saw the return of clouds, rain, and cooler temperatures. Grain harvests continue, hampered somewhat by recent erratic weather patterns. Some farmers have had to set harvesters really low to cut stalks that were flattened by earlier winds and rains. Third cuttings of hay are being made. Range and pasture conditions are still very good for this time of year. There certainly appears to be no water shortage. There is no new snow on the mountains yet, but if temperatures continue to drop and the wet weather continues, it shouldn't be too far off.

WALLOWA: Harvest and haying operations are in full swing thanks to drier weather. Hopefully this weather will stay and allow all producers to complete their jobs.

WASCO: Typical fall/summer weather. Very nice for working out in the summerfallow fields doing fertilizing, weeding, and seeding operations. Nectarines, peaches, pears and apples continued to be picked in the northern end of the county. Grapes are looking good and getting closer to being picked. Growers are currently testing the grape for sugar levels. Alfalfa hay operations are winding down for this year's season. The cattle were still doing fairly well on dry pastures; few are being moved onto wheat stubble. Stockman are currently purchasing and filling their barns with hay for the winter months.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON, WEEK ENDING September 12, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM. PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	46	72	61	2	76	11	0.78	0.18	4	1.27	0.30	131	8
Crescent City	44	69	58	-2	55	-8	0.01	-0.34	1	0.02	-0.55	4	2
Florence	42	75	59	-2	68	-5	0.76	0.26	1	0.92	0.11	114	2
North Bend	46	73	61	2	75	12	0.06	-0.30	1	0.19	-0.42	31	2
Tillamook	41	72	58	-1	57	0	1.19	0.40	3	1.36	0.09	107	5
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	46	86	65	3	109	18	0.07	0.26	1	0.32	-0.21	60	3
Eugene	46	84	64	-1	99	-1	0.01	-0.34	1	0.82	0.22	137	4
Hillsboro	45	79	63	1	90	5	0.09	-0.26	1	0.19	-0.37	34	3
McMinnville	44	81	64	1	97	5	0.07	-0.28	2	0.25	-0.31	45	4
Portland AP	53	79	66	2	112	8	0.09	-0.33	1	0.13	-0.55	19	3
Salem	47	80	64	1	97	5	0.17	-0.17	1	0.49	-0.05	91	4
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	49	89	69	4	137	22	0.00	-0.19	0	0.00	-0.29	0	0
Medford	49	91	70	4	141	20	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.33	0	0
Roseburg AP	49	86	67	2	120	14	0.06	-0.22	2	0.19	-0.24	44	4
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	36	81	61	3	79	13	0.00	-0.21	0	0.00	-0.36	0	0
Heppner	47	83	65	3	108	19	0.03	-0.16	1	0.03	-0.26	10	1
Hermiston AP	42	87	66	2	113	8	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.24	0	0
John Day	45	80	63	4	95	17	0.30	0.09	1	0.30	-0.06	83	1
Moro	44	83	63	2	90	11	0.05	-0.09	1	0.10	-0.14	42	2
Pendleton AP	47	84	66	2	113	6	0.09	-0.05	1	0.09	-0.15	38	1
The Dalles	49	85	68	8	128	47	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.24	0	0
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	37	82	60	4	75	22	0.00	-0.14	0	0.89	0.65	371	2
Burns	34	83	60	4	69	16	0.12	-0.02	1	0.12	-0.12	50	1
Klamath Falls	39	83	61	0	77	-1	0.00	-0.11	0	0.00	-0.21	0	0
Lakeview	34	82	60	2	69	3	0.00	-0.14	0	0.00	-0.24	0	0
Redmond	31	84	60	2	68	4	0.02	-0.10	1	0.07	-0.15	32	4
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	31	83	58	-1	58	-8	0.63	0.42	1	0.64	0.28	178	2
Joseph	38	78	58	5	60	19	0.91	0.63	1	0.97	0.49	202	2
La Grande AP	34	84	60	-2	72	-12	0.20	-0.01	1	0.22	-0.16	58	2
Union	34	83	60	1	71	3	0.21	-0.07	1	0.22	-0.26	46	2
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	42	88	67	2	119	13	0.24	0.10	1	0.24	0.00	100	1
Rome	38	90	67	6	118	34	0.08	-0.06	1	0.08	-0.16	33	1

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday, September 1, 2004.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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